(b) India started its atomic energy programme soon after independence and is acknowledged as a country with advanced nuclear technology.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) Not applicable.

(e) No, Sir.

Work under nuclear power corporation of India

†3236. SHRI RAM JETHMALANI:
DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that power generation work in the country carried out under Nuclear Power Corporation of India Ltd.;

(b) if so, when this company was established and since when it started commercial production and total number of units engaged in production work till December 2007 alongwith their total production capacity; and

(c) total production been done from these units as compared to the established production capacity in the year 2006-2007 and up to December of 2007-2008?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE (SHRI PRITHVIRAJ CHAVAN): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) NPCIL was incorporated as a Public Limited Company under the Companies Act, 1956 on September 17, 1987 and is in commercial production since then. As of December 2007, 17 nuclear power reactors with an installed capacity of 4120 MWe, including RAPS-1 (100 MWe) owned by DAE, were being operated by NPCIL.

(c) Nuclear power installed capacity in the year 2006-07 was 3360 MWe till 18.08.2006 and increased to 3900 MWe with the start of commercial operation of TAPP-3 (540 MWe). The generation in the year 2006-07 was 18,801 Million Units. In the year 2007-08 the capacity increased to 4120 MWe from 06-05.2007 with the start of commercial operation of Kaiga-3 (220 MWe). The generation in the year 2007-08 up to December 2007 was 12979 Million Units.

Supply of uranium to India

3237. SHRI DARA SINGH:
SHRI RAMDAS AGARWAL:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the present demand and supply position of uranium from abroad for use of our atomic power stations;

(b) the countries who are in favour of supply of uranium to India, till date;

(c) the countries who are not in favour of supply of uranium to India;

(d) if so, the reasons therefor; and

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(e) the reaction of Government of India thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE (SHRI PRITHVIRAJ CHAVAN): (a) Among the nuclear reactors in operation presently only Tarapur Atomic Power Station Units 1 and 2 use uranium from abroad for which fuel is available.

(b) to (e) While policies of individual countries may vary, actual availability of uranium from abroad is dependent on opening up of civil nuclear trade. This requires exemption for India from the guidelines of Nuclear Suppliers Group (NSG).

Production in atomic power stations

†3238. SHRI PYARELAL KHANDELWAL: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that production in atomic power stations of the country has come down to 30 per cent;

(b) whether it is also a fact that some atomic power stations are on the verge of closure due to the shortage of fuel;

(c) if so, the details of such atomic power stations, State wise; and

(d) the details of the efforts being made by Government to increase the production capacity of atomic power stations?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE (SHRI PRITHVIRAJ CHAVAN): (a) Presently nuclear power stations are operating at around 50% capacity.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Not applicable.

(d) Efforts have been made by the Government to augment fuel supply by opening of new mines and augmenting processing capacity. The work on setting up a new ore-processing mill at Turamdih in Jharkhand has been completed ar ' the production is expected to commence shortly. Work has also started on a new uranium mine and mill at Tummalapalle in Andhra Pradesh. Work is in progress to establish more uranium mining and processing projects.

New coal company in Orissa

3239. SHRI RAMA CHANDRA KHUNTIA; Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal pending in coal to create new coal company in Orissa by dividing the Mahanadi Coalfield;

(b) the number of cases of land looser that are still pending in Mahanadi Coalfield; and

(c) if so, whether Government has any time-frame to settle these cases?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA): (a) No, Sir.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.